

SMSgt (Ret.) Rob Rosenberger

Twitter @rsnbrgr

This PDF / ZIP / folder / _____ contains first-generation scans and/or photographs of original UNCLASSIFIED historical papers in the public domain stored in the Air Force Historical Research Agency at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. SMSgt (Ret.) Rob Rosenberger accessioned the enclosed document(s) into his personal collection and he donates this effort to the PUBLIC DOMAIN.

EO 12958: N/A My accession: 24 OCT 2022 Initials: RR

Title: BIOGRAPHY (MULTIPLE PERSONNEL IN FILES)

Date(s): VARIOUSLY DATED

Call: K239.293

Volume: _____

☒ ALL ☐ Selected Papers ☒ Except

NEWS REPRINTS

10 Aug 54

SPATCH

K 239.293

RETURN TO:

21 JUL 1988

Director
Aerospace Sciences Inst
ATTN: Archie's Branch
McGraw Hill ATC Building

A Letter of Appreciation From Mrs. Hoyt S. Vandenberg

Several weeks ago members of all branches and units of the Air University contributed generously to the Educational Fund of the Air Force Aid Society in memory of the late Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg.

CMS 69

This week Lt. Gen. Laurence S. Kuter, Commander, Air University, received a personal letter of deep appreciation from Mrs. Vandenberg, asking a bulletin board notice of her gratitude. The letter speaks more eloquently for itself, however, and for that reason is printed in full below:

"Dear Larry,

Thank you for your nice letter. My delay in answering does not show lack of appreciation for the splendid gesture of the people at the University but -- the thousands of letters take a bit of time to answer properly. I am enclosing a card which perhaps you can put on the bulletin board. If you have a daily bulletin I would appreciate it if you would put in a little paragraph expressing my appreciation of their doing this in Van's memory. Someone sent me a list of the various organizations but it would be impossible for me to acknowledge each separately.

Best wishes to you and Ethel.

Sincerely,

Gladys."

UNCLASSIFIED

0482148

UNCLASSIFIED

MRS. VANDENBERG LETTER

A U Dispatch 13 August

August 6th

Dear Larry,

Thank you for your nice letter. My delay in answering does not show lack of appreciation for the splendid gesture of the people at the University but -- the thousands of letters take a bit of time to answer properly. I am enclosing a card which perhaps you can put on the bulletin board. If you have a daily bulletin I would appreciate it if you would put in a little paragraph expressing my appreciation of their doing this in Van's memory. Someone sent me a list of the various organizations but it would be impossible for me to acknowledge each separately.

Best wishes to you and Ethel.

Sincerely,

Gladys.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

General Vandenberg, always a strong supporter of education in the Air Force, was well known in Montgomery where he frequently visited the Air University, Maxwell and Gunter Air Force Bases.

He was one of the original advocates of an Air Force Academy, the establishment of which has just been authorized by Congress, and he always took a warm personal interest in the Air University.

He was a student at the Air Corps Tactical School at Maxwell Air Force Base, predecessor of the Air University, in 1934-35, and was an instructor there in 1936.

At his last official public visit here in February, 1953, at retirement ceremonies for Lt. Gen. Idwal H. Edwards, former Commander, Air University, General Vandenberg praised both General Edwards and Lt. Gen. Laurence S. Kuter, present Commander.

Indicating his estimate of the Air University, he said:

"We're entrusting to General Kuter the future of the Air Force, for it is here at the Air University that we either make or break the Air Force."

General Vandenberg again spoke of the importance of the Air University at a meeting of 200 presidents of colleges and universities having Air Force ROTC units here in October, 1952. Then, he said:

"Certainly there is need for plenty of heavy thinking within the Air Force and the Air University is about the only place where serious thinking can be done without continuous interruptions. Yet even here our students are more rushed and crowded than they should be. But the

pressure of events is such that we dare not slow down.

"Almost overnight the Air Force has found itself plunged into new and enormous problems that involve the fate of the nation and indeed of western civilization itself. Upon us rests the continuing responsibility of devising the pragmatic actions that will guarantee the outcome we all desire—the security of the nation in the context of peace if that is humanly possible, but in any case the security of the nation whatever course events may take. It is manifestly impossible for the Air Force from within its presently overtaxed resources to provide the right answers to all of its problems. We are desperately in need of good minds—young and flexible minds eager to meet the rising challenge of our times, anxious to grasp the evolving meaning of air power as it relates to the mid-Twentieth Century world, and determined to fit it into its proper place for the general good of the nation and, let us hope, of all mankind.

"Our military history has had its full share of blunders. In the past the cushion of time and space represented by the protecting oceans has always made it possible for us to rectify them before it was too late. That cushion is gone. We dare not blunder again. Give us the right kind of men, and our nation need have no fear."

Highest honors will be paid to the memory of General Vandenberg by the Air University and all its units.

5 Apr 54

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALA.--Flags flew at half staff here as throughout the Air Force this week and highest honors were paid by all units of the Air University to the memory of Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Chief of Staff of the Air Force for more than five years.

General Vandenberg died ~~Saturday~~ Friday at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He was 55.

Lt. Gen. Laurence S. Kuter, Commander, Air University, and Mrs. Kuter attended funeral services in Arlington Memorial Cemetery Monday.

Officers of the Air University sent contributions to the Hoyt S. Vandenberg Memorial Scholarship Fund of the Air Force Aid ~~Soc~~ Society as personal tributes to their former chief.

President Eisenhower led official Washington in eulogizing the nation's second Air Force Chief of Staff. In a statement, he said:

"The nation mourns the passing of a devoted and able military leader and will hold him in grateful remembrance.

"Gallant commander a decade ago of our tactical Air Force in Northwest Europe; unswerving advocate of the precepts and cause of the United States Air Force, a forceful fighter for a strong national defense--General Vandenberg was a courageous and tireless leader. He has left a lasting imprint on the service he loved so well and on the nation he served

with all his strength and skill.

"News of his untimely death brings sorrow to his host of civilian and military friends, among whom I was privileged to be numbered."

Secretary of the Air Force Harold E. Talbott said:

"Although we all knew that General Vandenberg had been in ill health for some time, his death, nevertheless, came as a shock both to me personally and to the personnel of the Department of the Air Force. He was a great airman and an inspiring military leader. As a brilliant air strategist and one of the first chiefs of staff of the Air Force, he was a prime architect of today's powerful air arm. Both the military service and the nation he served so well have lost a great champion and friend."

In another statement, Gen. Nathan F. Twining, Air Force Chief of Staff, said:

"Only those of us who worked closely with General Vandenberg were fully aware of the depth of his thinking, the careful balance of his judgment, and the soundness of his decisions. He had the vision to foresee the rising significance of air power in the modern world. It is most fortunate for the people of this nation and of all the free nations that this man worked so hard, so long, and so successfully in the military profession. I have lost a true friend. The nation has lost a great man."

(PICK UP PREVIOUS MATERIAL)

Address by General Hoyt S. Vandenberg
Air War College, Maxwell Air Force Base
Montgomery, Alabama
Friday, 16 June 1950, 1000 hours

This is the fourth annual graduation of the senior school in an institution that has already created its own tradition. The insistence on clear thinking left its mark on all of its graduates. Those who attended the forerunner of this school were not the sole beneficiaries --- all levels of command were influenced by its graduates. General Fairchild, who planned and worked with me for the rebirth of this institution on a larger scale, named it "The Air University". He followed a farsighted plan to have the schools of this University carry on that relentless search for truth and understanding which produced our Western civilization.

General Fairchild was a man of great faith. He believed that the best methods for defending our civilization can be discovered by the same kind of study and thought that produced it. He believed that the soundest discipline, even for military man, is to be found in the forthright search for sound conclusions based on hard facts.

The existence of this institution became a great source of satisfaction to General Fairchild. It is now one of the many living monuments to his efforts. It is the kind of monument he would value most. Just as the Air Force was fortunate in the services of a man like General Fairchild, so has this institution been fortunate in his successors here. General Kenney, who has a famous war record and remarkable capacity for leadership, has continued to broaden and expand its usefulness. And I could not discuss the Air University or the men responsible for its success without reference to the Commandant of the Air War College, Orvil Anderson.

No man can study under or near General Anderson and fail to be stimulated by his vigorous logic, and his insistence on creative thinking and freedom from dogmatism.

No great institution can long succeed without leadership of men like these who think profoundly and accurately. The Air University has many men of this type, who - like General Samford of the Air Command and Staff School - were carefully selected as leaders and educators. We are confident that through their efforts more such leaders will be produced.

In today's complicated world it is not possible to succeed by instinct alone. Thinking and acting must always be combined. Whether your course of study here has been worthwhile -- whether it is worth the investment you and all of us have made in it -- can be determined only by your actions after you leave.

You are now well aware that the Nation and the services have some very serious problems to solve. It is necessary that you recognize the difficulties that stand in the way of their solution. But if you believe these difficulties insurmountable, then your knowledge and understanding will be of little value.

I must admit that the knowledge we share has impressed upon all of us that the responsibilities of the Air Force today are extremely heavy. We believe that the resources available to us are inadequate to meet these responsibilities, and we have said so.

But if all our knowledge, our arguments, and our pleas fail to produce all the support we need, we still cannot accept the possibility of failure.

A way must somehow be found, within our national means, to prevent

the destruction or even the mutilation of our nation. And a way must somehow be found to prevent the collapse of any major portion of our Western civilization.

Until such time as war may become a certainty we will not abandon our hope for peace. The superior quality, the impressive performance, and the obvious readiness which the Air Force can achieve may effectively discourage aggression.

As Mr. Finletter, the Secretary of the Air Force, said recently:

"... it seems to me that the primary purpose of our Defense Establishment is to have in being and ready for immediate action a force so strong that it will stand as a compelling deterrent to a nation which would break the peace."

Even if we should be attacked in force and heavily damaged, the Air Force and all the services would resist and strike back as long as any means whatever remained. For defeat or surrender to the ruthless forces that threaten us is unthinkable.

It is obvious that no matter how heavy or difficult our responsibilities, they must and will be discharged.

There is no escape from the fact that the responsibilities of the Air Force have greatly increased during the past year. We now have a dual responsibility for complete readiness to defend and to attack at the same time. In the performance of either mission there is no room for the slightest failure or even for the slightest delay. Our initial efforts may well be our decisive efforts.

In all our plans and actions we must carry the burden of one tremendous fact. Others are slow to face this fact and slow to share the burden, but no sophistry can conceal its truth. During recent years the effectiveness of weapons against targets in the air has increased only slightly. But the effectiveness of airborne weapons against targets on the

ground has been multiplied by hundreds.

Air Forces can exploit this fact, but air forces are also its victims. We no longer point out the tremendous potentialities of air attack merely as a warning to others. We have ourselves become targets within the range of the initial enemy attack -- as well as of attacks in the later phases of any possible war. Airplanes and bases on the ground are now, as always, prime targets in air warfare. Their vulnerability, along with that of everything else on the surface of the earth, has increased tremendously.

Anxiety for the safety of our cities and industries is inevitable. But it should not obscure the fact that the most effective defense against air attack is a counterattack. The enemy's striking force, like our own, can be most readily destroyed on the ground while it is being refueled, replaced, or rebuilt.

The success of this counterattack will ultimately determine the success of our defense. It will also determine whether or not our surface forces and those of our allies can hope for successful action. The air has no boundaries and neither has the job the Air Force has to be able to perform in the use of it. If there are any military responsibilities today that are greater than ours, I do not know what they are.

I do not see how we can tolerate the existence of such an incredible creature as an irresponsible Air Force officer. The words "irresponsible" and "Air Force officer" should never be used together except on papers indicating relief from duty.

The developments of the past year have added to the urgency of all our efforts. This urgency is not directly related to the theoretical

possibility of war. It arises principally from the increasing difficulty of building and maintaining the strength necessary to preserve peace.

The strain of which we are all so conscious cannot be taken lightly. It is a real strain. No one can safely predict that it will decrease. We must learn to live with it.

We can do this only if the inevitable strain is equalized to a considerable degree among us all. We cannot expect to carry on our rolls the faint hearts, foggy minds, and weak spirits that tax our sympathies and patience. If we hope to be able to perform our mission we must, above all, do everything possible toward finding and keeping the strong men who will help us. And we must do everything possible toward eliminating the weak men who would hinder us.

It is true that often our problems and responsibilities seem overwhelming, even to the strong men who struggle with them. Occasional discouragement is inevitable. Occasional impatience and other symptoms of frustration are normal. In fact, there is a peculiar danger that results from our working so close to the threat that worries the whole nation.

We have to be constantly alert and ready for the worst, even though others may relax in some degree and perhaps hope for the best. We have to prepare now for present dangers, as well as future dangers. The privilege of speculating heavily on possible developments of the unknown future is not ours. We are tempted to become unbearably impatient with those who are slow to recognize and face the threats we have to guard against. I cannot justify this slowness, but I must remind you that nothing we can do or say will completely overcome it.

Everyone acknowledges that the Air Force is in a position of

tremendous importance today, but other people feel important too. Other people, especially the other services, have missions that may appear less urgent and critical than ours. But each mission, and each portion of a mission, is somebody's responsibility. To that man, it is the most important mission of all.

For this reason changes occur slowly, perhaps too slowly to keep pace with our desires. But impatience is a virtue only when it produces positive and beneficial action.

We have always to exhibit modesty, patience, and restraint -- and this is in addition to our other duties.

I have said that occasional symptoms of strain are to be expected. But for any member of the Air Force to view our tasks as hopeless is to follow the counsel of despair. That is a luxury we cannot afford. Our duties are such that no relief is possible. The Air Force is no place for the man who feels that the job cannot be done. If we cannot protect this nation and its allies against devastation, who can? If we cannot drive home a crippling blow into the vitals of an aggressor -- what then can save the Nation from disaster?

You have been allotted, as experienced officers, an important portion of a load that cannot be shifted. Certainly, it cannot be transferred to you seniors, for they are just as heavily involved. You can hope for help from your juniors but only if first you train them well. The junior officers of the Air Force must be able to pick up an increasing share of the load. It is part of your job to make them capable.

We need the disciplined optimism of younger men as well as the realism of those who are older. They, too, can learn that the intelligent

recognition of difficulties is just as necessary as it is uncomfortable. It will have two results -- worry and work. I recommend that you emphasize the latter, for there is plenty of work to be done.

But in all of our work, through inevitable drudgery, dislocation, and confusion, let us never forget the purpose of our efforts. Along with the patience, modesty, and restraint we must maintain, let us never forget our high challenge. Wherever we are, our frontier is above our heads, and it extends above and over any aggressor who dares break the peace. There are no barriers between us and any enemy, and the hours that separate us are few. Our job is to be ready to meet an aggressor anywhere, at any time, in any strength. It is to be able to fight first and most desperately, all the way from the heart of our own nation to the heart of an enemy nation. Our job is to be able to penetrate and inflict a mortal wound on the aggressor.

If our strength should prove not sufficiently impressive to prevent an attack, our first task will be hardest of all. We will have to prevent defeat in the air battle during the first few weeks of war. If we fail, the efforts of others cannot be supported. If we succeed, the road to ultimate victory will be clear.

Certainly we are entitled to share with other Americans all hopes and aspirations for enduring peace. We can even look forward to a future free from continued crises, deadlines, and unusual demands. Whether war or peace is in store for us, the burdens we are now assuming will somehow be relieved. No faith in the future can justifiably be higher than ours. After all, we share the common hopes and the common fate of all Americans.

But by our own hands, if they are firm hands, we can lift those hopes. And we hold in our hands the Nation's first and boldest bid for

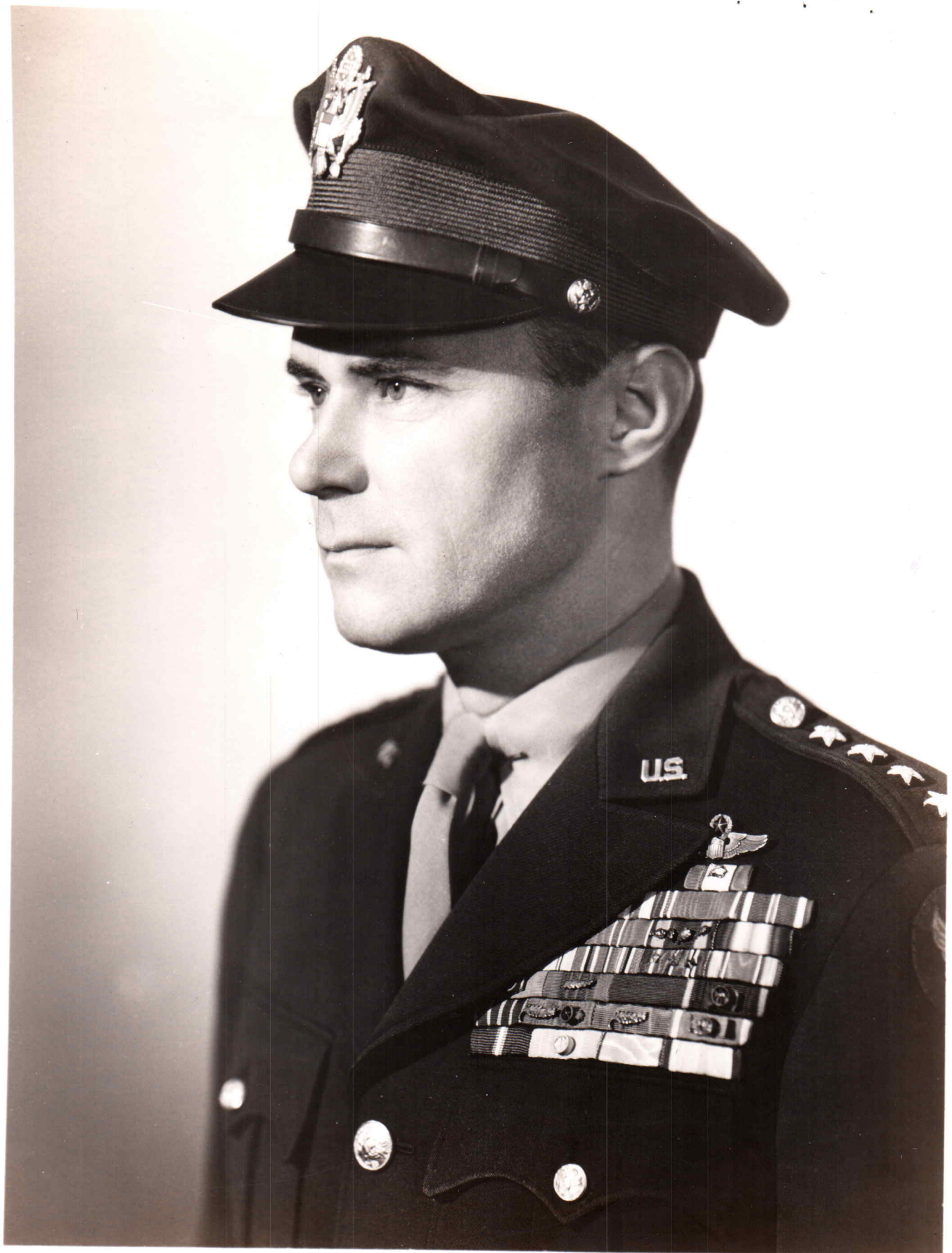
victory if open warfare is forced upon us. Whether we can win will depend, in some degree, upon the intensity and the steadiness of our efforts today.

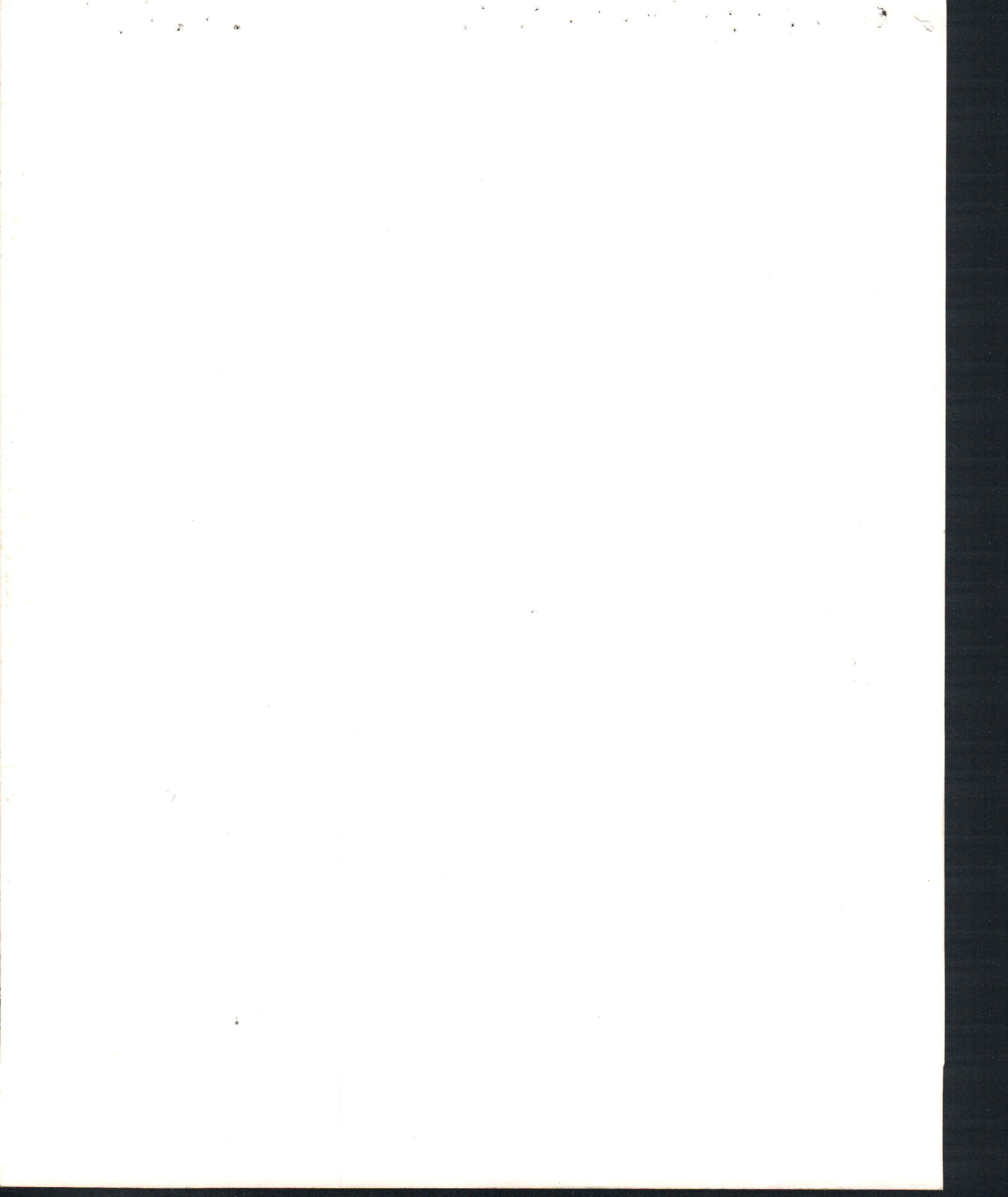
You have now been educated in the details of most of our hopes and fears. You will go back to your duties knowing the worst -- and also the best -- that the Air Force can tell you.

Will you be discouraged or inspired to greater efforts by your new knowledge? What will be your influence on the junior officers and the airmen you must guide? Many of our hopes for success will depend upon your answers.



Lt. Gen. Hayb. S. Vandenberg
deputy commander for AAF











Lt. Gen. Hayt. S. Vandenberg
deputy commander for AAF

ACTS
1934-35

HOYT SANFORD VANDENBERG

Hoyt S. Vandenberg was born at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on January 24, 1899. He was graduated from the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, and commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Service on June 12, 1923.

PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to first lieutenant on August 19, 1928; to captain on August 1, 1935; to major (temporary) on March 11, 1940; to major (permanent) on July 1, 1940; to lieutenant colonel (temporary) on November 15, 1941; to colonel (temporary) on January 27, 1942; to brigadier general (temporary) on December 3, 1942; to major general (temporary) on March 13, 1944; to lieutenant general (temporary) on March 17, 1945.

SERVICE

In September 1923 he entered the Air Service Flying School at Brooks Field, Texas. Following graduation in February 1924, he entered the Air Service Advanced Flying School at Kelly Field, Texas. He was graduated in September 1924, and joined the 3rd Attack Group at Kelly Field.

He transferred to Fort Crockett, Texas, with that unit in August 1926. In October 1927 he became an instructor at the Air Corps Primary Flying School, March Field, California. He went to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, in May 1929, and joined the 6th Pursuit Squadron, assuming command of that squadron in November 1929.

Upon his return to the United States in September 1931 he became an instructor in flying at Randolph Field, Texas. He became a Flight Commander there in March 1933. In August 1934 he entered the Air Corps Tactical School at Maxwell Field, Alabama. He was graduated in June 1935, and the following August he entered the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Following graduation in June 1936, he became an instructor at the Air Corps Tactical School, Maxwell Field, Alabama. He enrolled in the Army War College, Washington, D. C., in September 1938, and was graduated in June 1939. He then went on duty in the Plans Division in the Office, Chief of the Air Corps, Washington, D. C. In March 1942 he became Operations and Training Officer, A-3, of the Air Staff, in Washington. He was assigned to the United Kingdom in June 1942, and assisted in the planning and organization of the Air Forces for Operations in North Africa. While in the United Kingdom General Vandenberg was appointed Chief of Staff of the Twelfth Air Force. He participated in the invasion of North Africa and in the Tunisian and Sicilian Campaigns.

Upon his return to the United States in August 1943, he was assigned to Headquarters, Army Air Forces, Washington, D. C., as a Deputy Chief of Air Staff. In March 1944 he was assigned to Headquarters, European Theater of Operations, and in April 1944 was designated Deputy Air Commander-in-Chief, Headquarters, American Component, Allied Expeditionary Force, European Theater of Operations. In August 1944 he assumed command of the 9th Air Force in the same theater. In July 1945, having returned to the United States, he was assigned to Headquarters, Army Air Forces, Washington, D. C., as Assistant Chief of Air Staff. In February 1946 he became Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Intelligence, War Department General Staff. In June 1946 he was named by President Truman as Director of Central Intelligence, a new joint intelligence group inaugurated for the purpose of correlating foreign intelligence reports.

He is rated a Command Pilot and Combat Observer.

OVER

DECORATIONS

He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal in September 1942 with the following citation:

"For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service in a position of great responsibility while serving in the Office of Chief of Air Corps from September 3, 1938, to June 30, 1941; and on the staff of the Commanding General Army Air Forces, from July 1, 1941, to July 30, 1942. Colonel Vandenberg displayed exceptional ability, energy, judgment, and brilliant professional knowledge in contributing to the formulation of strategic plans for the employment of the Army Air Forces in world-wide operations on a vast scale. Through wise evaluation of the situation created by the requirements of air power set against the national materiel and personnel resources he was enabled to render expert counsel in the creation of a balanced air force. Concurrently this officer formulated and supervised the execution of the program for the allotment of aircraft in coordination with the demands of the broad strategic plans and the requirements for essential defensive installations and training establishments."

In June 1943 he received the award of the Legion of Merit with the following citation:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services. As Chief of Staff, he was largely responsible for the excellent organization of an Air Force. This was accomplished in the face of almost insuperable difficulties due to lack of time, experienced personnel, and equipment. The achievement of the Force in the initial and succeeding stages of operations is a tribute to his organization and administrative ability. Subsequently, as Chief of Staff of the Northwest African Strategic Air Force during operations in Tunisia, he was responsible for planning and carrying into effect, aerial operations which were instrumental in nullifying efforts of the enemy to bring in vital supplies and reinforcements. During the entire period General Vandenberg has displayed personal courage and coolness and unusual qualities of leadership."

In January 1943 he received the Silver Star with the following citation:

"For gallantry in action. Since February 18, 1943, when he assumed the duties of Chief of Staff of the Northwest African Strategic Air Force, this officer, by his untiring efforts, keen professional knowledge, and personal example has been an inspiration to the personnel of this command. During the recent operations many exceptional victories have been accredited to the Strategic Air Force. In no small measure these victories are attributable to the expert assistance rendered by General Vandenberg in the planning of these missions. The intrepidity he displayed in participating in many of the missions he had assisted in planning inspired the units of this command to renewed successful efforts against the enemy. By his display of gallantry and courageous leadership. General Vandenberg has upheld the highest traditions of the Air Forces of the United States Army."

The Distinguished Flying Cross was conferred upon him with the following citation in April 1943:

"For extraordinary achievement while participating in numerous aerial flights over Tunisia, Italy, Sardinia, Sicily and Pantelleria during the North African campaign. These missions were flown in all types of bombardment airplanes of the Strategic Air Force. Types of missions included attacks against shipping at minimum, intermediate and high altitude, and attacks against lines of communications, airports, and landing grounds. General Vandenberg has flown in various capacities, such as gunner, co-pilot and observer. By means of these flights, he has obtained first hand knowledge of operating conditions which has permitted him to recommend improved methods of operations. General Vandenberg's recommendations added immeasurably to the improvement in tactics and technique, and radio and air discipline of the Strategic Air Force. General

OVER

Vandenberg, Hoyt S.

-3-

Vandenberg volunteered for these missions knowing full well the hazards involved. This achievement, far above and beyond the requirements of his position, reflects high credit on him and the military service of the United States.

He was awarded the Air Medal in 1943 "For participating in five (5) sorties against the enemy," and received three Oak Leaf Clusters to the Air Medal for participating in a number of other sorties.

WAR DEPARTMENT - Up to date as of 17 June 1946.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
PRESS BRANCH

GENERAL HOYT S. VANDENBERG, USAF

Hoyt S. Vandenberg was born at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, January 24, 1899. He was graduated from the United States Military Academy June 12, 1923, and commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Service.

The following fall General Vandenberg entered the Air Service Flying School at Brooks Air Force Base, Texas, and was graduated in February, 1924. He then took the advanced course at the Air Service Advanced Flying School at Kelly AFB, Texas, and in September, 1924, received his first Air Force assignment with the Third Attack Group at Kelly AFB, with which he transferred to Fort Crockett, Texas, in August, 1926. After three years with this group, during which he took over the 90th Attack Squadron as his first command, he became an instructor at the Air Corps Primary Flying School at March AFB, California.

In May, 1929, General Vandenberg went to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, to join the Sixth Pursuit Squadron, of which he assumed command the following November; in September, 1931, he began two years of service as a flying instructor at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and became a flight commander and deputy stage commander there in March, 1933.

General Vandenberg entered the Air Corps Tactical School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, in August, 1934, and was graduated the following June. Two months later he enrolled in the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and completed the course in June, 1936. He then became an instructor at the Air Corps Tactical School at Maxwell Air Force Base, where he taught until September, 1936, when he entered the Army War College.

After graduating from the War College in June, 1939, General Vandenberg was assigned to the Plans Division in the Office, Chief of Air Corps. A few months after the United States entered World War II, he became operations and training officer of the Air Staff. For his services in these two positions, he received the Distinguished Service Medal.

In June, 1942, General Vandenberg was assigned to the United Kingdom and assisted in the organization of the Air Forces in North Africa. While in Great Britain, he was appointed chief of staff of the 12th Air Force, which he helped organize.

On February 18, 1943, General Vandenberg became chief of staff of the Northwest African Strategic Air Force. With this air force the General flew on numerous missions over Tunisia, Italy, Sardinia, Sicily, and Pantelleria during the North African campaign. He was awarded both the Silver Star and the Distinguished Flying Cross for his services during this time. For his organization ability with the 12th Air Force and his work as chief of staff of the Northwest African Strategic Air Force, he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

General Vandenberg, in August, 1943, was assigned to Air Force Headquarters as a deputy chief of Air Staff. A month later he became head of an Air Mission to Russia, under Ambassador Harriman, and returned to the United States in January, 1944. Two months later he was transferred to the European theater and in April, 1944, was designated Deputy Air Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Expeditionary Forces and Commander of its American Air Component.

MORE

In August, 1944, General Vandenberg assumed command of the Ninth Air Force, and on November 28, 1944, received an Oak Leaf Cluster to the Distinguished Service Medal for his part in planning the Normandy invasion.

General Vandenberg was appointed Assistant Chief of Air Staff at Air Force Headquarters in July, 1945. The following January he became Director of Intelligence on the War Department General Staff where he served until his appointment in June, 1946, as Director of Central Intelligence. He returned to duty with the Air Force in April 1947, and in June 15, 1947, became Deputy Commander and Chief of Air Staff. On October 1, 1947, he was designated Vice Chief of Staff of the U. S. Air Force and promoted to the rank of General.

On April 30, 1948, General Vandenberg became Chief of Staff of the U. S. Air Force, succeeding General Carl Spaatz. On March 6, 1952, President Truman re-nominated him as Chief of Staff for a second term, to end June 30, 1953, and the nomination was confirmed by the Senate April 28, 1952.

General Vandenberg received the Air Medal in 1943 for participating in five sorties against the enemy, and was awarded four Oak Leaf Clusters to the Air Medal for flying in a number of other sorties. He is rated a command pilot, combat observer, aircraft observer and technical observer.

General Vandenberg's wife is the former Miss Gladys Rose. They have two children, a daughter, Gloria, who is married to an Air Force officer, and a son, Second Lieutenant Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Jr., USAF.

General Vandenberg has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal with one Cluster; the Silver Star; the Legion of Merit; the Distinguished Flying Cross; the Air Medal with four Clusters; the Bronze Star; the Victory Medal; the American Campaign Ribbon; the American Defense Ribbon; and the European-African-Middle East Campaign Ribbon.

His Foreign Decorations include: Mexican Military Order of Merit; Netherlands Order of Orange-Nassau (Grand Officer w/Swords); Brazilian - Cruz del Sol (Grand Officer); Brazilian Medal of War; Luxemburg Order of Adolph von Nassau (Grand Cross); and Croix de Guerre; Belgium Order of Leopold I (Grand Officer w/Palms), and Croix de Guerre with Palms; British Order of the Bath, (Knight Commanders Cross); Polish Order of Polish Restoration (2nd Class); Portuguese Ordem de Avis, Gra Cruz; Egyptian L'Ordre Du Nil Grand Cordon; Chinese Order of Pao Ting (Tripod w/Grand Cordon); Chilean Medallia Militar de Primera Clase; Argentine General Staff Emblem and the Military Order of Italy.

PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to first lieutenant (permanent) August 19, 1928; to captain (permanent) August 1, 1935; to major (temporary) March 11, 1940; to major (permanent) July 1, 1940; lieutenant colonel (temporary) November 15, 1941; to colonel (temporary) January 27, 1942; to brigadier general (temporary) December 3, 1942; to major general (temporary) March 13, 1944; to lieutenant general (temporary) March 17, 1945; to lieutenant colonel (permanent) June 12, 1946; to brigadier general (permanent) June 22, 1946, with date of rank from April 30, 1946; to major general (permanent) August 1, 1947; to General (temporary) October 1, 1947.

E N D

Up to Date as of 6 May 1952